

BENSON OR KIRKPATRICK
COMING TO YOUR TOWN?

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bel, your subscrip-
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fail to renew.

AMERICAN SOCIALIST

OUR TICKET THIS YEAR

For President
ALLAN L. BENSON
For Vice-President
GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK

VOL. II. No. 52.

304

CHICAGO, SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1916

50c per year; \$1 per year outside United States; 25c for 40 weeks in Clubs of 4 or more except in Chicago

Make Their Voices Reach The Millions!

"CLOSE UP THE RANKS!"

This was the message that our candidate for president, Allan L. Benson, sent out over the nation last week.

You read his message in The American Socialist. You read his call to action.

Our presidential candidate promised, in addition to all the writing he will do during the campaign, to speak six nights a week during this great struggle starting September 1.

Our vice-presidential candidate, George R. Kirkpatrick, is already eager to enter the fray. He will start July 16.

On this page are presented the plans for the tours of our national candidates. You are told how you can get Benson or Kirkpatrick, or both, in your city. Every Socialist in the nation is interested, supremely interested in these plans, because every Socialist in the land wants to do something to get as many non-Socialists as possible to hear our standard bearers this year.

"As one speaker, I hope to be able to reach hundreds of thousands with my voice", said Benson in his call to action. We want to make that millions, if possible.

"Every atom of strength that is in me is going into this campaign," declares our vice-presidential candidate, Comrade Kirkpatrick. This is the year of Socialist opportunity. We want deeds now, the mighty deeds of aspiring and self-sacrificing men and women. In this hour of trial the 100,000 comrades of the Socialist Party will not be found wanting, I am sure."

At its recent meeting the party national executive committee decided to make it possible for Socialist locals to secure our standard bearers by getting subscribers to the party paper, The American Socialist. The plan for getting a Benson or Kirkpatrick date on a subscription basis ought to be carefully considered by every Socialist local.

In commenting on the meeting in Carnegie Hall, New York City, that he recently addressed, Presidential Candidate Benson said:

"It proved to me beyond the shadow of a doubt, first, that there is in the Socialist Party enormous energy that needs but a touch to put it into action and, second, that outside of the party there are pent up desires to which only the Socialist Party can give expression".

This week we want to put the enormous energy in the party into action preparing for record-breaking, capitalism-smashing tours for both our national candidates. We urge upon the comrades everywhere to enlist the support of all Socialist sentiment available in doing this.

"Our political enemies have marked out our way for us", says Comrade Benson. "Let us go down the line like a Transcontinental Limited making up lost time. All the circumstances are favorable to the performance of our task."

"It is in our power this year profoundly to impress the political consciousness of the people of the United States. We can do it. We must do it. We shall do it."

"Close up the ranks! We are going to move forward this year in earnestness and devotion. Never again, after next election day, shall anybody have reason to ignore the fact that the Socialist Party of the United States is a political force that must be reckoned with."

We want to enlist every one of the one hundred thousand dues paying party members and the one million Socialist voters in this great effort to put Socialism on the map bigger than ever this year. Are you ready to enlist. If so, read about the Benson-Kirkpatrick campaign tours below.

Our Standard Bearers In Great Campaign This Year



ALLAN L. BENSON
FOR PRESIDENT

GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK
FOR VICE PRESIDENT

Vice-Presidential Candidate

George R. Kirkpatrick

will be available immediately after

July 16.

Our Presidential Candidate

Allan L. Benson

will be ready

September 1.

Each Candidate will be accompanied by an able speaker and manager who will endeavor to co-operate with the local to insure the success of the meetings.

There is a limited number of dates for which our national standard bearers are available. The time is very short, and live-wires in wide-awake locals desiring to secure either or both candidates should read the terms below carefully and file application at once.

JOIN THE 1916 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN TOURS!

HERE ARE THE TERMS: As the time that our National Standard Bearers have at their disposal is short it will not be practicable to book them together at one place for the same date. There will be only a few meetings at which it will be possible for both candidates to be present.

THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST SUBSCRIPTION CONTRACT

LOCAL GETS 800 six month subscription cards to The American Socialist for which the Local pays \$200. The cards sell for 25 cents and include an admission coupon to the meeting. The sale of the 800 cards will give the local \$200. On all sub cards sold in excess of the original 800 local gets 40 per cent or 10 cents per card.

MAKING THE PAYMENTS.

All applications for subscription contract must be accompanied by \$25; \$50 to be paid when date is set; \$50 ten days before the meeting and \$75 on night of meeting plus amount due for extra Subscription cards at rate of 15 cents each.

FREE ADVERTISING.

The American Socialist will furnish free of charge a maximum of 1,000 window hangers (in two colors), 7,500 dodgers (printed both sides), 200 posters, 10 lantern slides (for use in moving picture houses), 4 cuts, press notices and write-ups for local papers. Extra advertising matter will be furnished at actual cost.

ABOUT THE LITERATURE SALES.

All literature for sale at these meetings to be furnished by The Socialist Party to the local at wholesale prices; profits on same go to the local. Settlement for literature sold to be made immediately after meeting and unsold books to be returned to the national office of The Socialist Party.

COLLECTION GOES TO LOCAL.

Entire proceeds from collection goes to the local.

TERMS OF FLAT RATE CONTRACT.

Price \$100, payable as follows: \$25 with application; \$25 when date is set; \$25 ten day before meeting; balance of \$50 to be paid on night of meeting.

ADVERTISING

The following supply will be furnished free of charge, extra lots can be obtained at actual cost: 500 window hangers, 5,000 throw away cards, 3 lantern slides, 3 cuts and write-ups.

LITERATURE.

Same condition as under subscription contract.

COLLECTION.

Same as under subscription contract.

SUBSCRIPTION CONTRACT GIVES LOCALS BEST OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE MONEY

The average large city local can easily sell from 1,000 to 1,500 tickets at 25c. The combination offer of a six month subscription to The American Socialist and an admission to a presidential lecture course is a good inducement. Such a ticket sells for 25c much easier than a general admission ticket of the same price.

A local selling 1,500 cards makes \$75 in commission. This, with a well organized literature selling brigade and collection committee, can easily raise the net proceeds to the local to from \$150 to \$200.

NUMBER OF DATES IS LIMITED.

Please remember that in the little time left between now and election day it will be impossible to route these speakers to every village, city and town. We will therefore have to adopt the policy of "first come first served". If you want one of the candidates in your town during this campaign better act at once.

Call a special meeting of your local. Discuss the matter thoroly and if you have a handful of live wires in your local you can make the meeting a rousing success.

And remember, in taking the subscription contract, the tickets will be honored by this office either in literature or subscription to The American Socialist; these cards can also be used to extend a subscription if you are already a subscriber.

Here is an opportunity to stir up your town, to invigorate your local, to help roll up a vote this November that will make Mr. Plute sit up and take notice.

Send your application now with the deposit!

In applying please answer the following questions in the order named:

Population of your city?

What railroads come to your town?

How many newspapers are in your town?

How many picture shows (where slides can be used)?

What date do you prefer?

Afternoon or evening?

Will you accept other date than specified above?

What dates is it impossible for you to accept?

How much advertising matter can you use to advantage: window hangers? dodgers?

posters? lantern slides? cuts and news write-ups?

About how many books ought we send you: 25 cent books? Ten cent books?

Which contract do you want: Subscription?—Flat Rate?—

Will you furnish your own chairman?

Answer these questions at once and mail your application together with the deposit today. Do it now. A few hours delay may mean a lost opportunity. Mail or wire your reservation at once.

Address: CAMPAIGN DEPARTMENT
NATIONAL SOCIALIST PARTY
803 West Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

This Is The Year Of Our Opportunity

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY:

Comrades:—At their recent joint meeting the outgoing and the incoming National Executive Committees, together with the Presidential and Vice-presidential candidates, after careful reports on the condition and needs of the movement in all parts of the country, formulated plans for the biggest and most impressive campaign in the history of the party.

Reports received from all sections of the country indicate a general and rapid recovery from the apathy which has so long prevailed. Everywhere there is a great revival of interest and enthusiasm. The membership is increasing, the party press is making steady gains and there is a greater degree of unity and enthusiasm in our ranks than for some years past.

This is the year of our opportunity and we shall not fail! With the betrayal of the rank and file of the Progressive Party by its leaders, many thousands of thoughtful citizens who believed that thru that party social justice and industrial democracy could be achieved, insulted and disillusioned by "leaders" whose methods are those of horse traders, are turning toward the Socialist Party, eager for its message. And many thousands more, dismayed by the menacing growth in this republic of that militarism which brought so much disaster to the nations of the Old World, hail the Socialist Party as the party of peace, of progress and international solidarity.

The splendid record of our one representative in Congress, Comrade Meyer London, has been the source of great satisfaction and inspiration to all of us. Alone and unaided, he has done wonderful work. But each day has shown the need of an effective Socialist group in Congress. We believe that there are excellent prospects of electing six or eight additional Congressmen this year. The chances of electing Comrade Eugene V. Debs improve daily and there are splendid prospects in New York, Wisconsin, Oklahoma and Nevada. If we can carry on the vigorous campaign called for—as we must—victory is sure!

In addition to the special efforts in those favorable districts in which we can reasonably hope to elect Congressmen, there must be a national campaign of vastly greater magnitude than any that we have ever attempted heretofore. The conditions by which we are confronted make this an imperative necessity. The stupendous world war, conditions in Mexico and the alarming increase of aggressive militarism, impose upon us the duty of waging a vigorous campaign of agitation and education.

Plans have been developed for sending all the available speakers in the party into the field at an early date. In addition, our

literary forces have been mobilized as never before. The ablest writers in our ranks are already preparing leaflets which we must circulate by the million. We do not want a mere flagwaving campaign. Ours must be a campaign of education. Our Presidential candidate, Comrade Benson, in addition to his speechmaking will write each week (or oftener if required) a special leaflet on some question of immediate interest, which will be rushed from the press into all sections of the country at the utmost speed. It is hoped thus to make the campaign memorable as the greatest educational campaign in our political history.

Comrades, the execution of these plans obviously requires what is for us a large sum of money. To raise it we must all make some sacrifices. Every comrade must do his or her part. Our membership is approximately one hundred thousand. Two dollars from each member would give us a fund of two hundred thousand dollars. While that is less than either of the old parties will spend in a single State, perhaps, it would suffice to enable the Socialist message to be taken into every corner of the United States. It would mean the election of not less than eight Congressmen, we believe. It would make it possible for us to gather the fruits of our years of labor and sacrifice, and to send a mighty message of cheer and inspiration to our sorely tried comrades of other lands.

There is probably not a member of the party who could not manage to give two dollars to the national campaign fund. We believe that none will refuse to do so, even tho it requires some sacrifice and self-denial.

Comrades! Never at any time in our history were our responsibilities so heavy as now. Never was need of the heroic spirit and the glowing faith of martyrs so great as at the outset of this campaign. These are times to try our very souls! But never were our opportunities greater. The task before us calls for courage, faith and self-sacrifice. Without these qualities we can do nothing; with them, victory is certain.

Let each comrade respond to this appeal with an immediate contribution, as liberal in amount as possible.

Yours for a Socialist Victory,

VICTOR L. BERGER,
JOHN SPARGO,

MORRIS HILLQUIT,
JOHN M. WORK,

ANNA A. MALEY.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

July 1st, 1916.

ADOLPH GERMER, National Executive Secretary.

AMERICAN SOCIALIST

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BUNDLE RATES.—Bundle Rates One Year to one Address: 4 copies, \$1.80; 10 copies, \$3.50; 25 copies, \$6.25; 50 copies, \$12.50; 100 copies, \$25.00. Bundle Rates of Air Mail: 100, \$5.00; 200, \$9.00; 300, \$13.00; 400, \$17.00.

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1916.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Here is all the week's news worth while boiled down for workers so busy fighting for Socialism they do not have time to read the daily capitalist papers.

MONDAY, JUNE 26.

Administration turns down plea for mediation with Mexico; Wilson wants congress to give him full power.
Russian army nearing Carpathian passes.
Capture another Bukovina town and halt Germans in Sokul sector.
French airmen in reprisal raid on Karlsruhe, Germany, kill 110 persons, among them many women and children.

TUESDAY, JUNE 27.

Carranza counters to Wilson ultimatum with demand U. S. free 20 Mexican prisoners and lift embargo.
Allies on British and French fronts use gas and giant guns, but fail to advance, Berlin reports.
William K. Willcox, Hughes choice, put at head of Republican national committee.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28.

Carranza will surrender prisoners captured in Carrizal; peril of war with Mexico greatly lessened.
"Uncle Joe" Cannon tells house of representatives that "cleaning up" is only hope for Mexico. "Uncle Joe" always did use his brains the way Standard Oil told him to.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29.

Twenty-three negro troopers taken prisoners at Carrizal clash with Mexicans arrive at El Paso, Tex.; Carranza troops reported to be following Pershing's men moving north.
Sir Roger Casement, Irish leader, found guilty of treason and sentenced to hang.

660 Voters In Debs' District!

SIX HUNDRED and sixty voters in the Fifth Indiana District, which is going to send Eugene V. Debs to congress, have put on the mailing list of The American Socialist for six months each. This is the result of the \$164.50 already contributed to the "SEND DEBS TO CONGRESS FUND". Of this \$32.90 has been contributed directly to the campaign fund in the Fifth Indiana District.

Noble C. Wilson is now preparing a special list of industrial workers in this district to whom he wants The American Socialist sent for 15 weeks, from now on to the election. You are therefore urged to hurry in your contribution to the Debs' Fund. For every \$1 sent in, the Fifth Indiana Socialist Campaign Committee will put seven voters on our mailing list for 15 weeks. In addition 15 cents will be contributed directly to the campaign to elect Debs.

Are you with us? If you can't send in \$1 or more, send in 50 cents or 25 cents or less. When all the quarters and half dollars are added together they will make many dollars. Use this blank:

SEND DEBS TO CONGRESS!

THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST,
803 W. MADISON ST., CHICAGO.

Here is \$..... which is my contribution to help send Eugene V. Debs to congress from the Fifth Indiana Congressional District. I understand that for every \$1 sent in, the Fifth Indiana Socialist Campaign Committee will be allowed to put seven voters on the subscription list of The American Socialist for fifteen weeks each and that 15 cents will be contributed to the Fifth Indiana Socialist Campaign Fund.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE

Against Bandits ... Or Strikers?

May it not be that the authorities at Washington, and the powers behind the throne in Wall Street, have a double purpose in calling the whole organized militia of the country to readiness, and that of New York and several other States actually to the colors. Is Mexico the only objective in view? Is it even the principal one?

The railway workers' brotherhoods, their patience worn out by the incoherent treatment they have received in their long conferences with the companies' representatives, have begun voting on a proposal to give their officers authority to call a general strike for the eight-hour day. There is every reason to expect that an overwhelming majority will vote in the affirmative.

If such a strike actually comes, it will be the biggest thing of its sort that has yet happened in America. The A. R. U. strike of 1894 and the anthracite miners' strike of 1902 will be far surpassed.

It will take several weeks before the vote is closed. When the rank and file have at last made their decision, it will rest with a dozen or two of multi-millionaires to say whether an unprecedented labor conflict shall be averted by timely concessions or whether they will let it be far surpassed.

Is it altogether impossible that President Wilson is thinking of what President Cleveland did twenty-two years ago? Is it altogether impossible that our boys in khaki, once mustered and encamped and given a few weeks' drill, will find that they have been called to serve, not against Mexican bandits, but against American strikers?

Stranger things have happened.—NEW YORK CALL.

Luck doesn't seem to be on the side of the Democrats this year. They had scarcely got thru declaring against intervention in Mexico before Mr. Wilson's army intervened.

You are expected to vote for either the same thing or the same old thing; and many of you will do it.

Henry Ford seems to have lost out along with the other favorite sons. If he really wants to promote peace, he had better turn to promoting Socialism.

Big Business Need Not Fear La Follette's Wisconsin Idea

DURING his campaign for the nomination as republican candidate for president of the United States in 1912, Senator La Follette declared that "big business" had nothing to fear from his "Wisconsin program", known as the "Wisconsin Idea". This article by the Socialist mayor of Milwaukee, another chapter from his book, "REGULATION—A FRAUD AND A FAILURE", tells why "big business" has nothing to fear. After reading this article you will want the book, which is being given away FREE with a six months' subscription to The American Socialist at 25 cents. Send all orders to The American Socialist, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

By DANIEL W. HOAN, Socialist Mayor of Milwaukee.

CHAPTER IV.

The Indeterminate Franchise Permit.

THE SO-CALLED indeterminate franchise permit feature of the law was drafted to give the impression to the public that the law in fact favors municipal ownership. It provides a method by which municipalities may condemn, take over, and operate the property of certain utilities. Its effect, however, and very probably its rear purpose, has been not only to discourage municipal ownership, but also to favor capitalistic interests.

As finally amended, Chapter 596, Laws of Wisconsin, 1911, provides that all light, heat, power and telegraph franchises be indeterminate, and that all franchises granted after 1907 to street railways shall also be indeterminate. In simple words, this clause changes existing franchises which had been granted by cities for definite periods into new franchises granted by the state to run indefinitely.

This regulation law builds up and intrenches public service monopolies in Wisconsin thru the means of this indeterminate franchise permit. By "indeterminate" is meant that the utility's franchise to do business in any city is extended by the state, from terms definite in number of years to an indefinite term, to-wit, perpetually. The company under such an arrangement is not only relieved of the bother of getting a renewal of its franchise from the local council, but is made immune to possible competition. When one company in a city possesses such a franchise, no new company is allowed to come in and do business without the consent of the Railroad Commission. The law, moreover, is so fixed and interpreted that it is very doubtful whether the commission really has power to permit a new company to come into a community where a company furnishing a similar service is already operating.

WISCONSIN'S MONOPOLY.

THUS, on close inspection, we find that the reformers who on the lecture platform loudly demanded that monopolies be busted, and declared that Roosevelt lost a great opportunity in not smashing the ten thousand trusts, in the legislative halls enact legislation which actually builds up and intrenches monopoly. Aside from the patent and copyright laws, this much proclaimed Wisconsin law is the only attempt to build up and protect absolute monopolies which has ever been recorded, to my knowledge, in this country.

It will perhaps be easier to illustrate the situation with which the people of Wisconsin are confronted by explaining the facts in actual cases. On February 2, 1891, the City of Kenosha, Wisconsin, granted to the Kenosha Gas and Electric Company a franchise to conduct an electric light business in the City of Kenosha. Believing that it was to the best interest of the city that some competition should exist, the Common Council, on June 7, 1911, granted to a second company similar franchise rights.

The first company, however, appeared in court at about this juncture. It set forth that just ten days prior to the time the Common Council had granted the franchise to the competing concern, it, as the original concern, had surrendered its old

argument that monopolies are not desirable. I merely present the facts, and submit that if the reader has any idea that the "Wisconsin" idea implies smashing monopolies, it is not the public service monopolies of Wisconsin that are to be smashed.

TAKE AWAY PEOPLE'S RIGHTS. AGAIN, the city of Chilton, Wisconsin, offers a typical example of how the rights of the people have been taken away by the operation of this public utility law, so as to protect capitalistic interests.

The people of that city were exceedingly eager to own a municipal light plant because for years the private plant had been in a state of semi-bankruptcy, had changed hands several times, and for whole months at a time had neglected to even operate as to furnish any service whatsoever.

On January 17, 1908, the Electric company of that city ceased to operate its plant entirely. On March 17, the citizens voted two to one in favor of building a municipal plant. On August 8, 1908, after the private plant had been idle for almost seven months, the city council, on the assumption that the private company had defaulted entirely and abandoned its rights, repealed the franchise which the city had granted to the company out eleven years prior to that time. On about August 21, the private company appeared in court and asked for an injunction to prevent the repealing ordinance in question becoming effective. The injunction was granted on the grounds that the company had already surrendered the franchise to the state and had obtained an indeterminate permit; that this indeterminate permit prevented every chance of competition, even to the extent of preventing the city from building an electric plant. No one had ever dreamed that the reformers had repealed the city right (2) to build a municipal plant by their regulation law.

It was not until after the temporary injunction was granted to the private companies on the above date that the corporation, on September 17, 1908, after a period of exactly eight months, aroused itself from its slumber and started to do business at the old stand.

HAD THEM BY THE THROAT.

THE CITIZENS of Chilton soon awoke to the fact that the corporation had them by the throat. The law had not only taken away the right to go ahead with its own plant while the private company was doing business, but it also prevented the dislodgement of the private company until such time as the city got ready to build its own plant. The corporation saw fit to fix it. In other words, before a city could now own its own plant, it had first to buy all the property of the local company, no matter how old or out of date it might be, so long as it was in use, as a part of the plant. The case was taken to the highest court in the state, where both the claims of the company as to the meaning of this indeterminate franchise were upheld in the following language:

"The consideration of submitting to full control by the commonwealth and the right of the municipality, at its option, to take over the property as indicated, certain conditions and limitations, in favor of the grantee, are attached to the new privilege. The dominant feature thereof is that the franchise shall not only be perpetual, subject to the conditions and limitations of the law, but also that it is said—but shall be subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by the legislature. In other words, the idea is that the grantee, under state control, and subject to prescribed limitations and supervision, shall have a monopoly, as it has been several times called by the railroad commission, in its administrative work, and by this court, within the field covered by the privilege, as to rendering the particular public utility service, whether directly or indirectly, to or for the public."

Not only did the indeterminate permit feature of the regulation law thus obstruct the cities when endeavoring to obtain municipally owned plants, but besides this, it deprived many of the cities of Wisconsin of many valuable provisions in their local franchises. Many of these were concessions which had been wrested from the corporations when the original grants had been made. They were now knocked out completely.

CITY IS EDUCATED.

THE CITY of La Crosse, Wisconsin, has a provision in the franchise granted by the city to the La Crosse Gas and Electric Company, that the company should pay into the treasury of the city 2% of its gross earnings, in addition to such other taxes as might ordinarily be levied against it.

After the public utility act was enacted, the company refused to pay this 2%, and even refused to let the city see its books to ascertain the amount due. The only thing left the city was to commence an action in court to recover the amount due, under the terms of the franchise.

The people of La Crosse also had to be educated to the inner workings of this progressive reform. While it questioned the power of the city ever to have exacted such a condition from the corporation, the court decided that it was the intent of the public utility regulation law to wipe out all such conditions, and to substitute therefore a new franchise—the "indeterminate permit"—which was uniform in character. (4)

The City of Kenosha, Wisconsin, in March, 1908, provided in its franchise with the Citizen's Telephone and Telegraph Company that the company should furnish telephones to the city free of charge. The successor of this company gave up this franchise for an indeterminate permit. This new company attempted to charge rentals for the telephones it furnished the city, notwithstanding the fact that the public utility law meant, as their lobbyists had very probably taken part in its framing. The citizens of Kenosha, on the other hand, while they have received some enlightenment in the case already referred to, had still some lessons to learn. The city brought action to compel the company to furnish free telephones. The court, in deciding against the city, held that the legislature, by enacting the utility regulation law and providing an indeterminate permit, took away from the city the benefit of all such terms as were not contained in the new utility law; and

London Battles Jingoism Who Would War Against Mexico

By LUCIEN SAINT.

WASHINGTON.—"I refuse to abandon the hope that the President will for the sake of this Republic, for the sake of unfortunate Mexico, for the sake of Europe, anxiously looking to him to pick up the torn threads of international peace, continue to keep this country from the horrors, the crimes, and the insanities of war."

These were the words of Socialist Congressman Meyer London, spoken in the House on the day the House voted to send the National Guard over the border into Mexico—the first time that the militia, created by the Constitution for defense only, has in the history of the nation been forced to go outside of the country. The machine that rules the House gave London only three minutes, but in that three minutes he said many things.

REPUBLICANS PLAY POLITICS.

HE ACCUSED the Republicans of playing politics, and said that there are men who would play politics at the grave of a brother. He scored Representative Campbell of Kansas who would not vote against an appropriation for the Villa expedition, but who declared that if by voting against the National Guard resolution he could avoid war, he would vote against it. "The real question before Congress at this moment," declared London, "is, Shall the army of the United States be sent to protect the border of the United States or shall it be permitted to invade the territory of the United States. That is the only way to save the country from war. Protect your own border, and withdraw the army from Mexico."

NO DISHONOR IN WITHDRAWING FROM MEXICO.

"THERE is no dishonor in withdrawing from Mexico. You are a hundred million strong. Mexico is distracted, writhing in the agony of revolution, small, miserable, helpless. No one will doubt that you are powerful enough to defeat Mexico; you are not asked to retire before a stronger army; you are not withdrawing before a superior power; you are not retreating because you are afraid; but you do retire from Mexican soil because you are afraid to commit a wrong, to do an injustice; and I submit that to be afraid to do wrong is to be afraid to commit an injustice, is not cowardly, but manly. There is no dishonor in this. Nor is any question of dignity involved. It has been Mexico's misfortune to be ruled by foreign capital. The American people are not seeking either revenge or acquisition of Mexican territory. The American investor has no higher claims to security than the Mexican people themselves. He has chosen to invest American capital in Mexico. Shall he be permitted to drag the American Army with him to protect his investment? "In what position do you yourselves, Democrats, responsible for the conduct of the Government?"

WILL DEMAND SLICE OF MEXICO.

"THE PRESIDENT has been proclaimed the great pacificator. The hope has been held out to the world that he will not only keep the United States out of the maelstrom of war, but that he will help to restore peace to Europe. Shall all these hopes be blasted? If you once enter Mexico, you will never withdraw from it without appropriating a large slice of Mexico. The same influences that have forced the Villa outrage and then the blundering Villa expedition, will force the retention of the invaded Mexican territory, all of course, in the name of American dignity, and as compensation for the blood which the American people will pour out."

that it was the intention not to burden the company with fulfilling conditions which the citizens had enacted under the old grants, such as free telephones, etc. (5)

I venture the opinion that if the citizens of Kenosha had realized that the public utility law, instead of protecting the city from the possibility of work to prevent them from granting a franchise to a competing utility, and would also deprive the city of the free telephones which the company was obligated to furnish, neither Robert M. La Follette nor any other Progressive politician would have obtained a corporate's guard of supporters in that city.

BLOCK CITY OWNERSHIP.

THE FEATURE of the indeterminate franchise which gives cities the right to condemn plants and take them over whenever they are operating under the so-called indeterminate permit, would appear to favor municipal ownership. However, it should be remembered that the purpose of the enactment of the regulation law there was a rapidly growing sentiment in Wisconsin in favor of municipal ownership. It was hoped that this movement could not only be delayed, but in most cases entirely suppressed by a system of regulation under which the public service corporation would be compelled to observe a few of the principles of common justice.

The municipal ownership provision was inserted because of public sentiment, but it was so loaded down with contingencies as to favor private ownership. As is seen, it prevented cities from starting a competing municipally owned plant, and by successful bring the private company to its knees by this method. Secondly, it specified that no city could venture into municipal ownership where there was a private plant with an indeterminate franchise, without first buying all the property of the private plant which was in use, whether it consisted partly or wholly of worn-out equipment or not, and paying the full price that the commission fixed therefor. To say the least, would not this situation tend to discourage many cities from undertaking municipal ownership?

The old competitive system is based upon the principle that a citizen has the right to embark in business and compete against his neighbor. While it may not be advisable in all cases, is there any reason why citizens in their collective capacity, that is to say, when organized as a municipality, should be prevented by law from obtaining a public utility, and competing against a private one, and from going into the business at all until they are ready to buy out the private plant first.

Secondly, what principle of the competitive system requires cities at the expiration of the term of a franchise to take over the plant or junk of a public service plant and pay for the materials that are worthless or obsolete? Why should not the citizens be given the full right, if they so desire, to build an entirely new plant, and at the expiration of the franchise permit the private company to take its belongings and vacate? Certainly the investors in the public utility company invested their capital on the assumption that they be allowed to continue in the business for the length of time only for which the franchise was granted; and with the hope perhaps, of obtaining a future grant, but with no promise or assurance of getting it.

NOTHING TO FEAR.

IS IT ANY wonder that the bonds of the public utility companies in Wisconsin sell better after the enactment of the above law than before? Certainly there is a reason why La Follette could properly proclaim in his campaign for the nomination of president of the United States in 1912 that the corporation had nothing to fear from his program Wisconsin, since they were more prosperous after

this regulation law took effect than before.

- (1) Kenosha G. E. Co. vs. Kenosha E. R. Co., 145 Wis. 345, 346.
- (2) Ellenwood vs. City of Reddsburg, 81 Wisconsin 131.
- (3) Calumet Service Co. vs. Chilton, 148 Wis. 324, 327.
- (4) Calumet Service Co. vs. La Crosse Electric Co., 145 Wisconsin 408.
- (5) Kenosha Home Telephone Co., 148 Wisconsin 538.

RIGHT ON LEADING QUESTION.

We do not know who the Socialist candidate for president may be or whether he is competent but we predict that he will get a vote in November that will be an eye-opener. The Socialists are against war and preparedness and while they probably will not win, they come nearer being right on the leading question of the hour than either of the other two parties.—Fairbury, Nebr., Journal.

Socialist Unity

Basis And Form Proposed To
The Socialist Party
By The Socialist Labor Party

The question of Unity is now before the membership of the two parties, and in all probability a conference will take place in which this question will be discussed very thoroughly. The Socialist Labor Party in a leaflet has outlined the minimum of conditions for unity. Every member of the Socialist Party, or at least every one of the 20,000 who voted for Unity Conference, should read this statement, and circulate it among fellow members. A bundle of 100 will be sent everywhere in United States and Canada for 25c postage prepaid.

S. L. P. PLATFORM

With Resolution On Economic Organization,
and other resolutions adopted at National Convention, April 30, 1916, should also be read by every member of the Socialist Party. Price as above. Send orders to the literature agency of the Socialist Labor Party, the

New York Labor News Company
45 ROSE ST., NEW YORK, N. Y.

A SIX WEEKS' COURSE IN THE SCIENCE OF EDUCATION APPLIED TO THE CLASS STRUGGLE. Written for the busy worker. Shows How To Multiply Your Power—How To Master Knowledge—and How To Use It in Ending Wage Slavery—for Yourself and Your Class. "Knowledge—Our Greatest Lever of Power." Send for Free Booklet. Address: F. S. HANNEN, M.D., MT. AUBURN, IOWA.

EVERY BIZ A BARGAIN. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 H.P. 12, 16 and 22 H.P. Kerosene, Gasoline, etc. WITTE ENGINE WORKS, 3220 Oakland Ave., Kansas City, Mo. \$89.90

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REGISTERED AIRDALE PUPS and DOGS. Comrades, you need one. Mention The American Socialist. Comrade Airdales, Pasco, Wash.

How the Farmer Can Get HIS By Mary East campaign book showing what SOCIALISM means for the FARMER. The book is a down to earth, Charles H. Kerr & Co., 17 E. State St., Chicago

200 Benson and Kirkpatrick Streets, 10c. Liberty Co. Sta. D, Box 4, Cleveland, O.

Liebknecht imprisoned For 30 Months For War On War

KARL LIEBKNECHT, known more and more as "the bravest man in the world" because of his defiance of the powers of German militarism, has been ordered placed in prison for 30 months, because he spoke for peace on International Labor Day, May 1, in an open air meeting in the streets of Berlin.

Thus the Kaiserists hope to silence the greatest anti-militarist the war has produced, at least until the slaughter in Europe is ended. That Liebknecht's influence cannot be imprisoned with him was shown by the fact that a demonstration against his sentence was immediately held in Potsdamer Platz (Berlin) when some 20 persons were arrested.

In addition to being sentenced to 30 months penal servitude Liebknecht was also dismissed from the army for attempted high treason, gross insubordination and so-called resistance to the authorities. The court, it is claimed, decided that Liebknecht was guided by political fanaticism and not by unpatriotic feeling, and therefore imposed the lowest penalty on him. The maximum penalty would have been 15 years. Liebknecht is entitled to appeal from the sentence.

Tribute to Anti-War Sentiment That the sentence imposed on Liebknecht by Germany's war courts was no greater is a tribute to the anti-militarist sentiment among the German people. The German militarists have gone as far as they dared, and Liebknecht is the only man in Germany who has been sentenced to a term of imprisonment for his part in the anti-war movement.

Liebknecht was tried behind closed doors. When the court martial convened there was a large attendance of persons interested in the case, but the room was almost immediately cleared while the court considered a motion made by the prosecutor to exclude the public during the entire trial "in the interest of public security." This motion was granted and it was ordered also that newspapers should print no reports of the trial except the verdict, which would be made public.

Ever since the war was declared Liebknecht has been at the head of those who have fought the war and the militarists in Germany. He has been hooted and hissed and prevented from speaking in both the German Reichstag and the Prussian Landtag, in which he was elected from the Potsdam district, where the Kaiser's great palace is located. He was arrested May 1 during an anti-war demonstration and since then has been held in custody, the Reichstag having passed a law on May 11 by a vote of 229 to 111 declining to order his release. He was accused not only of taking part in, but of arranging the demonstration, at which it is alleged cries of "down with the war" and "down with the Kaiser" were raised by the demonstrators. A report on his arrest made to the Reichstag, contained these charges, and in detailing the circumstances of the incident asserted that he resisted the police, but finally was knocked down and overpowered.

It is declared that Liebknecht's conviction automatically disbars him as a lawyer and makes him ineligible to hold public office. It does not, however, affect his position as a member of the Prussian diet and the Reichstag, since these offices are held as of right by members of the Reichstag and not by government appointment. His status as a legislator is unaffected, as the court refrained from revoking his civil rights.

Another Victory Won. It is reported that the anti-militarist Socialists in Germany have gained another victory in the reorganization of the party local executive committee in Berlin. Among the members of the new committee is Rosa Luxemburg, almost equally active with Liebknecht in carrying on the anti-militarist propaganda. She served several months in jail soon after the outbreak of the war because she accused German officers and non-commissioned officers of abusing soldiers.

Socialists in other warring countries, as well as in the United States, are well fed, encouraged and enthused by the great struggle against war being waged by our comrades in Germany.

Now that both the Democratic and Republican platforms declare for preparedness, the munition makers may contribute to both campaign funds and calmly await the result.

Mrs. Catt is respectfully referred to the fact that the Socialist party stands alone in favor of woman suffrage. Let her turn the 4,000,000 women votes to this party and her cause will be won.

Of course Mr. Roosevelt declined the nomination in order to cement the Republican factions together, but what was it that made him so very ill all of a sudden?

DO YOU WANT THE TWICE-A-MONTH SUPPLEMENT?

AS A result of action taken by the national committee, the official business, open forum and other features of The American Socialist of interest exclusively to party members is being published in a twice-a-month supplement. The subscription price of this supplement is one cent a month or 10 cents a year in addition to the regular subscription price of The American Socialist. In other words, the subscription price of the paper, with the supplement, will be 30 cents for six months, 35 cents for 10 weeks, (in clubs of four or more) and 60 cents for one year. In order to get the supplement with your paper, if your sub has not expired, send in one cent for each month (in stamps is the best way) for the period that your sub has yet to run. Send all orders to The American Socialist, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

Can Debs Be Elected To Congress?

This question will be answered candidly and frankly in next week's issue of The American Socialist. Max Sherover, staff writer of The American Socialist is in Terre Haute, Ind., now getting the facts at first hand. His investigation will embrace the entire Fifth Indiana Congressional district. Sherover was sent to Terre Haute to investigate conditions and report back to the readers of The American Socialist.

The nation's eyes are on Debs' district. Tens of thousands of comrades the country over want to see "Gene in congress. Thousands upon thousands of comrades are ready and willing to dig down and make supreme sacrifices, but they want to feel assured that Debs' chances for election and the prospects of a brilliant Socialist victory are excellent.

This is Comrade Sherover's mission. He will gather his data from among the masses of the workers and farmers. He will go among them as an investigator; he will feel the pulse of the great mass of the people outside the Socialist ranks. And he will make his result known in a series of articles to be published exclusively in The American Socialist. Watch for the series. First article will appear in next week's issue.

Jeff Farr Dethroned

By ADOLPH GERMER. JEFF FARR, for twenty years the Sheriff (King) of Huertano County has been kicked from his throne by the Supreme Court of Colorado. For twenty years Farr's gang of deputy sheriffs (mine guards) has been the terror of the county. It was Farr's gang of deputized mine guards that shot into the Pryor tent colony during the recent strike and who killed three defenseless men on the streets in Walsenburg. It was Jeff Farr who told the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations that he issued deputy sheriff commissions upon request from the coal companies; that he never inquired into their reputation and character and that for all he knew the men he deputized might be "red hand murderers."

Farr himself was a physical coward. When the first shooting occurred at Ludlow, at my suggestion he was asked to accompany the District Attorney, myself and others to the tent colony to make an investigation. I requested a permit to call on him and invite him along. The reply I got was that he (Farr) wouldn't go down there for a million dollars. Of course, Ludlow is not in his county, but as the Chief Peace Officer it was important for him to know who was responsible for the shooting and use such information to the end that a similar occurrence might be avoided in his jurisdiction. Again, when his underlings shot three men in Walsenburg, Farr was not to be seen on the streets for some weeks. He kept his head close to the ground, known as the County Jail and the Court house where he had some eighty ruffians armed with pistols, rifles and machine guns.

Stole One Election Too Many. While Farr was a coward, he had around him a gang of daring and desperate as ever walked in shoe leather. They were not men of intelligence. Such persons could not be trusted. They were men of the most brutal instincts, who took special pride in torturing and agonizing those who had a mind of their own. The record made before the above named commission is full of recitals from people who suffered from the lash of King Farr.

But now the despot has fallen. He stole one election too many. In 1912 E. L. Neelley, a hardware dealer at Walsenburg, was a candidate against Farr on a Democrat-Progressive fusion ticket. He was defeated, according to Farr's returns, by more than one thousand votes. In 1914 Neelley again was nominated. The striking miners, by whom Neelley stood at the risk of his business and his life, in turn stood by him to a man. Farr's returns showed Neelley defeated by 329 votes. But now the miners were organized and there was a co-ordinating of the different elements that wanted Farr dethroned. It was easily established that more than 500 illegal votes had been cast for Farr. These illegal votes were cast by Rockefeller's imported strike breakers. The case was taken into the Supreme Court and the following telegram tells the story:

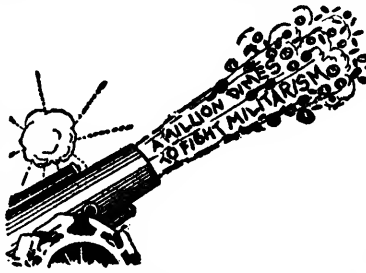
Denver, Colo., June 21, 1916. Adolph Germer, Mount Olive, Ill. Supreme Court of Colorado handed down decision today ousting Jeff Farr and his crowd from office. John McLennan.

Every Dog Has His Day. Thus is interrupted, if not ended forever, the career of one of the most soulless political despots that ever disgraced an office of trust. It is further proof that every dog has his day.

Now that he has fallen, the way is open for the complete organization of the several thousand miners in Huertano County.

In the course of the German Reichstag debate on the censorship, Dittman, one of the members of the Socialist minority, declared that the German people feel exactly as every other people who have been drawn into the sea of blood. They do not want to continue the war even for a second to suit annexationist politicians. The censorship forbids the publication of the truth, but it cannot kill the spirit of Socialism. Millions of men and women in Germany and other countries, he added, have the burning faith that after this age there must follow an age of peace, reconciliation, and human love.

The Million Dime Column



Conducted by MAX SHEROVER.

Due to the fact that this edition of the paper goes to press earlier than usual, the regular report of the number of dimes received will be published in the following issue.

The dime banks, coin cards, letters and general contributions are coming in fairly good, but they indicate that not all of the readers and members are on the job. The campaign is on! Our vice-presidential candidate, Comrade George R. Kirkpatrick will fire the opening gun at St. Louis, July fourth. Comrade Allan L. Benson will start out a little later. Preparations are now being made to send scores of speakers out all over the country. New leaflets are now under preparation and should be ready soon. There are plans in the minds of the members of the new National Executive Committee, the Executive Secretary and the Campaign Manager that if carried out will roll the Socialist vote up beyond the TWO MILLION MARK. There's only one thing that can make these plans futile and inoperative—lack of funds.

We must have money to do the work. If every reader of this paper would undertake to get a bank filled or even half filled we would have a real campaign fund.

New Requests Arrive For Banks. New requests for banks are coming in daily. And they are being taken care of promptly. Are you among those that haven't done anything yet? Then, come in! Do your share! Do your duty! You owe this to the movement!

Lack of space prevents us from publishing all of the letters we receive from the comrades in the front trenches right hot from the battle field of labor. If you could read these letters you'd feel as inspired as we do; you would feel ashamed of having shirked your duty. Here are the messages from the men on the firing line. Read them and their jump in and do your bit.

From The Firing Line.

Mary Slack, Lake Worth, Fla., out the heading of this column and pasted it to a long sheet of paper. With that list she went out among the workers and got fifty of them to put their names down opposite their contributions. And in sending the list with \$5.25 she modestly states: "a few more dimes for a few more Dubs."

"Here is bank 92 with three dimes in it. I put these in myself as I am bed fast (have been for nearly ten months) with rheumatism and as much as I would like to I cannot leave my bed to hustle for Socialism. I sent out 68 dime card sets, I could address and mail them the unable to leave my bed. I have not been able to work or earn a dollar since November, 1912, so I have no means of my own. I would have filled the bank personally. Yours for the Cause, H. Clifford Wright, Brunswick, Md."

A. D. Atkinson, So. Braintree, Mass., writes: "I am sending my second bank and when you get it, I feel sure that you have got a dime for every cent that was given to Socialism in this town in 1912. So now let other cities and towns do as well. You need not return the postage."

"I enclose another dime for the fight against militarism. To fight militarism is the noblest task a person can undertake. I cannot command your work too strongly and I congratulate you on your success. I know of no foe other than militarism that can prevent us from having Socialism in our time. Please send me a quantity of envelopes, a dime by mail and I will send you a card and vote that was given to Debs after my friends and neighbors." writes John E. Jensen, Buffalo, So. Dakota.

Keeps Three Banks At Work.

"I sent you yesterday Bank No. 104 with 20 dimes in it and Bank No. 778 with ten dimes in it. You need not return the postage. I am also inclosing bank drafts for two dollars and my personal share of the fund. The third bank No. 782 I will put to work immediately and return it as soon as it is loaded till it can hold no more. Yours for the Great Cause, E. A. Seltman, Nekoma, Kans."

"Your letter asking for the bank received and will say in reply that I will return it after a few days. You must not refund the registration fee as that is not the way that I do business in the Socialist Party. I have spent many dollars for ammunition at times when I did not know where my next meal would come from, but I am living and fighting for Justice and Liberty and will continue to do so till the end. You may send me another bank about the middle of July. I am busy now circulating Socialist petitions and have little time to attend to the banking business," writes G. H. Wilson, Lafayette, Colo.

F. L. Sladek, Paris, Mo., writes: "Am returning bank No. 893 with a few dimes in it. The bank makes three banks from here, the first two pretty well filled."

"Enclosed please find one dollar to help fight 'scaresness'. I have eight sons all of military age and I don't want them to be cannon fodder. I had enough of militarism in my native country (Sweden) in my young days. Yours for Peace and Goodwill to all mankind," writes A. J. Carlson, Brockton, Mass.

"Want to join the Dime Bank Division," writes Anton E. Prim, River Edge, N. J.

"Please send me a dime bank. I want to do something for the campaign," pleads Nathan Freitag Patterson, N. J.

From Moonshine To Sunshine

By JOHN M. WORK. CAPITALISM is a fake. It is the classic era of moonshine.

They say that we have prosperity. Yet, men walk the streets looking for jobs. Women take to the brothel as the only place where they can earn a living. Numberless charity organizations are required in order to keep people from starving outright. And some of them starve to death in spite of this. In addition, the vast majority starve mentally, morally and spiritually, whether they starve physically or not.

In other words, our boasted prosperity is moonshine.

THEY say that we have equal opportunity. But, those who have money are thereby given a great and unfair advantage. The masses are caught in the net of necessity. In order to get an opportunity to earn a living at all, they are compelled to hand over to the wealthy parasites most of their earnings. Thus is the scripture fulfilled. "To him that hath shall be given, and from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath."

So, our boasted equal opportunity is also moonshine.

THEY say that we have equality before the law. But, a poor thief goes to jail while the rich malefactor goes scot free. The wealthy can and do hire legal genius to ward off justice. The poor cannot even scrape up money enough to ward off injustice. More moonshine.

SO WE could go on down the line. Capitalism is a fake. It is a delusion. It is a raw, tragic, devilish imposition. It is a damned lie.

When the people acquire sufficient horse sense, they will call capitalism's bluff.

They will make the industries collective property, and run them for the benefit of all the people. We shall then have genuine prosperity and opportunity. We shall—all of us, men, women and children—have the amplest opportunity to take advantage of the higher things of life, to develop our individuality and to make our lives really worth living.

It will be a change from death to life. From lies to the truth. From moonshine to sunshine.

Our "New Freedom" For Mexico

By JOSEPH E. COHEN.

IT MAY be that the clamor and clatter of American troops toward Mexico are nothing more than steps toward President Wilson's reelection. He is making airtight his line of defenses against attack from the Republican party, and his desire to unite the nation behind him in patriotic fervor may be his finishing touch.

It would be a sad thing for us if this were so. It would be still sorer if, with this object in view, Mexico were invaded and the task of extinguishing Mexico's self-government be left to the American people.

Possibly in this hour of trial Mr. Wilson may recall the high-minded thoughts with which he sprinkled his first messages to congress. He may recollect that he promised this nation a "new freedom."

WE DO not suppose either he, or any Democrat, would now attempt to tell what this new freedom means, in the light of what has happened since he was inaugurated. We rather think most of his followers, and possibly he himself, have forgotten that he ever used such a phrase. It is all in the day's politics.

But some of us in America have not forgotten. And a few in Mexico, hoping against hope, that the great republic to their north would let the Mexican people find their way to freedom, also may remember Mr. Wilson's glittering language.

So far as we, in America, are concerned, we do not thrust this promise of Mr. Wilson's before him with the expectation that it is to be fulfilled. The majority of voters are not so innocent as to hope for that. They would have to be quite well satisfied if the president had used his offices, say, to preserve what measure of freedom still remained to us in this country, instead of letting it be ruthlessly cut down by the outrages of the military and other forces in Colorado, by the menace of Calumet, by the spectacle of West Virginia and other places.

But liberty-loving people cannot help but gaze over the enormity of turning our "new freedom" into the enslavement of another nation.

Mexico's chief shortcoming is that she is weaker than us. We can prevail over her. More than that, she is rich in resources and possibilities for exploitation. It is therefore to our interest to overwhelm her and strip her of her riches.

THAT IS serious enough, but by no means all.

That the rights of our people along the border should be protected goes without saying. That the privileges of our people under the suzerainty of the alien government in Mexico should be preserved, is likewise true. But our government could more easily make us and the American people feel that it is actuated by no other motives than these, if it had heretofore or would now show any intention of securing to the American people their own rights and privileges in America.

As it stands, the belief that the whole Mexican trouble is a move for Mr. Wilson's re-election is not without strong support. And we might as well make plain what this carries with it.

Mr. Wilson himself has charged with bad faith those who have been inciting trouble along the border. He could, with an equal show of proof, vouch for it that the recent raids across our border have been planned and paid for by capitalists who want intervention, if not annexation.

Why does not the president do this? Can it be that Mr. Wilson sees in

On Top At Minneapolis!

By O. M. WASSING. The Socialists came out of the non-partisan primary fight in Minneapolis, Minn., on top of the heap. They are now going into the battle to "Carry Minneapolis for Socialism!" in November.

Several years ago the Socialists almost carried Minneapolis and nearly put Thomas Van Lear in the mayor's chair. The plute politicians were so scared they didn't want to combine—they got the state legislature to pass a "non-partisan" law immediately. Now the primaries in Minneapolis, as in Milwaukee, mean a battle, only the two highest being picked to go into the finals.

In the recent Minneapolis primaries, the Socialist candidate, Thomas Van Lear, for mayor, received 13,891 votes, against 9,406 for the "reform" candidate Langum; while the present mayor, Nye, only received 5,879. The Socialists also carried their algerman candidates thru in five wards, carried the legislative ticket thru in the 32nd district, and surprised the whole town by carrying one of their candidates for the school board.

One thing that helped us to show the workers that they are getting the worst of it, as they always do, was the teamsters lockout. There are thousands of teamsters now locked out because they insist on wearing a little union button. Mayor Nye, candidate for re-election, had placed a policeman, and sometimes two of them, on every scab wagon. This helped to solidify the working class vote. We are now getting ready for the fall campaign. We are going to elect every man nominated.

AND THIS would be so if it were not that the eyes of American capitalists look enviously upon the Republic below us, and what the capitalists seek the newspapers demand and their representatives in Washington submit to.

This is the hour to raise our voices for no interference in Mexico except on the side of the freedom of that people from political dependence and industrial subjection.

THEY WILL STAY AT HOME. Have you noticed how the millionaires and sons of millionaires, who have been making much of the fact that they belonged to the militia, are now dodging to opportunity to go to the Mexican border.

There is Battery C, Illinois National Guard, Chicago's millionaire battery, which had a list of 18 quitters when the time for mustering in came. An effort was made to keep the names secret. When they became known, however, it was found that the deserters included the prize bunch of pink tea heroes from the exclusive North Shore Drive district. Up at the head of the list was the publisher of The Chicago Daily News, one of the Chicago dailies that has been the loudest in demanding intervention.

Then what do you think of James W. Wadsworth, Jr., United States senator from New York, who has resigned as lieutenant of Troop M, First Cavalry, New York National Guard? He feels that to go to the border at once for military service under the broiling sun on the Mexican deserts. This would result in two things. It would be giving the U. S. senate a real job for the first time in its life and it would immediately end all talk of intervention, intervention and war against Mexico so far as the senate is concerned. By ending all talk of war the senators would be doing the country a real service.

All this merely upholds what Socialists have always contended; when war approaches the millionaires and capitalist statesmen prepare to stay at home and appropriate all the profits and graft in sight, while the workers are sent to the front to be slaughtered and crippled.

ENGINE "WHY" BOOK

One of the cleverest little books on engines that has ever been published, has just been printed by Mr. Ed. H. Witte, a Kansas City engine expert. He says that while the supply of books lasts, he will be glad to send anyone who is interested a copy of this book, which is called "Why? Why? Why?" with your name and address on a postal or scrap of paper and address Mr. Witte, 326 S. Oakland Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

For full particulars write to the membership department. Address LLANO DEL RIO COMPANY OF NEVADA, RENO - NEVADA.

SOCIALISTS SWEEPING INTO POWER.

But what will you do with the power when you get it? Can you administer the office after you are elected? Why not study L.A.W. and equip yourself to make good? Hoan, Mayor of Milwaukee is a lawyer—London, the Socialist Congressman, is a lawyer,—and so on through the list.

YOU CAN BECOME A LAWYER BY STUDYING IN YOUR SPARE TIME.

And there is just one place to take your law course—with—

THE PEOPLE'S COLLEGE.

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- 2nd.—Because we have the best course from a capitalistic point of view,—written by Professors from over 20 leading universities.
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THE PEOPLE'S COLLEGE, Fort Scott, Kansas. Dear Comrades:—Please send me full particulars concerning your Course in Law.

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MAKE EVERY SOCIALIST VOTER AN AMERICAN SOCIALIST READER

TURN TO PAGE ONE.

We want every hustler for The American Socialist to turn to Page One and read the terms under which it will be possible to get a speaking date for our national standard bearers in your town on a subscription basis for your paper. Then get your local together and secure immediate action. This is the time for big achievements.

ROLL OF HONOR

Our prize list this week comes from Comrade Fred E. Simon, of Watertown, N. Y. He sends in a bunch of 20 names for 40 weeks.

Then there is a list of 12 from Comrade R. A. Limes of Springfield, Mo., who wants to have the paper started with the Benson-Kirkpatrick edition.

In sending in this, Comrades, be sure to write plainly, be sure to write out the address as well as the name to get your paper regularly let us know and we'll try to locate the reason why.

Comrade A. J. Nield, of Harlock, Neb., has the right idea. He sends in a list of tight names, each subscriber to get The American Socialist for six months and a copy of Dan Hoan's book, "Regulation—A Fraud and A Failure". This is the book that puts the middle class reformers to flight. It is given away free with a 25 cent six month sub to The American Socialist.

Then there is that campaign book offer. Comrade Frank Siefert, of Olivet, Mich., wants one and sends in 50 cents for a year's sub. The campaign book is given away free with a year's sub at 50 cents.

"A few months ago I was presented with a copy of your paper and was so enthused by it that I decided to become a subscriber," writes Raymond Judd, of Indianapolis, Ind., as he asks us to put him on our list for one year.

"I am a new subscriber and enjoy your paper very much," writes Paul Gruber, of Peoria, Ill. May his tribe increase. We think it will increase mightily during this campaign year.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPT.

Organization — Education — Solidarity.

WILLIAM L. KRUSE — Director

To reach the nation's youth with the message of Socialism and to bring them into the organized Socialist movement through Young People's Socialist Leagues.

Address all communications to:

Socialist Party Young People's Dept., 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

YIPSELS RUN BIG PICNICS.

Pateron, N. J., reports big success on its recent picnic, held on Young People's Day. It was practically a State affair, since the young folks from all over the state came in on trains, chartered trolleys, and auto trucks. Athletic games of all kinds were held.

The Yipsels of Ohio, including those of Toledo, Cleveland, Elma, Columbus, Dayton, and Sandusky are going to arrange a State Picnic at Cedar Point on July 16th.

The ground work for this convention is being called later in the year will also be held here.

The Chicago, Ill., Y. P. S. L. is also coming to the front with a big picnic. The same will be Executive Park, Date, July 23rd, and all seven leagues of the city will take part. Seymour Siedman, candidate for governor, and Carl D. Thompson, candidate for Congress will be the speakers.

In addition to those orders for the Y. P. S. L. Special edition acknowledged in last week's paper the following have been received:

Brockton, Mass.500
Buffalo, N. Y.500
Jamestown, N. Y.500
Elizabeth, N. J.500
Washington, D. C.500
Harvey, Ill.200
Pittsburgh, Pa.100
Previously acknowledged	12,000
Total14,100

ELECT GENE DEBS!

The State Convention of the Y. P. S. L. of N. J. has adopted the following resolution, and requests that all leagues take some action toward the end advocated below:

"Whereas, our platform stands for Eugene V. Debs, and he has been nominated as a member of Congress, and as such a veteran agitator, teacher and scholar would be a most desirable achievement, and

"Whereas, the campaign for Comrade Debs' election will be one of strenuous effort, requiring not only the enthusiastic moral support of all socialists of America but also the unstinted financial support of all, be it therefore

"Resolved, that the State Convention of the Young People's Socialist League of N. J., assembled at Elizabeth, on Sunday, May 14th, 1916, use each circle and affiliated organization to contribute at least one dollar (\$1.00) towards the campaign, and be it further

"Resolved, that we send the heartiest wishes to Comrade Debs for a successful termination of the campaign."

NOTE: All contributions can be sent in care of the National Office, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

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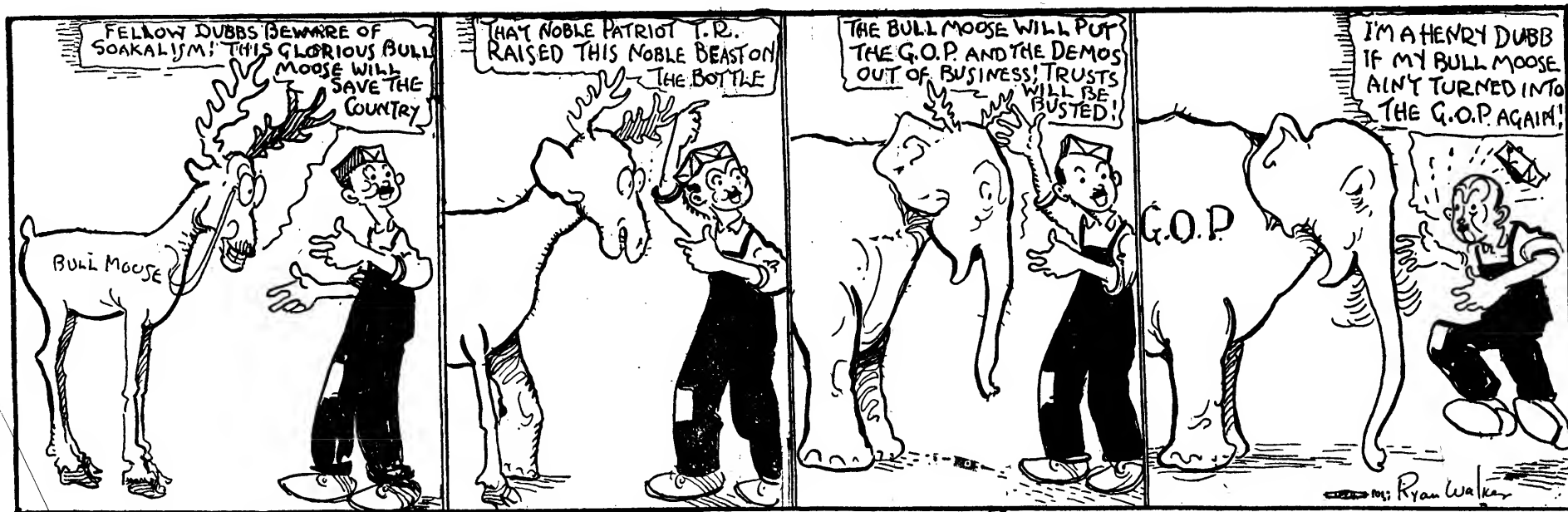
Circulation Manager

AMERICAN SOCIALIST

803 WEST MADISON ST., Chicago, Ill.

HENRY DUBB AND THE BULL MOOSE - A Study In Reverting

By RYAN WALKER.



Industry Exacting; Demands Thoroughness, Accuracy, Speed

By WARREN ATKINSON.

(Fifth Article On Education.)

THE REQUIREMENTS of industry are exacting. Success, even in the minor positions, is contingent upon thoroughness and accuracy and speed. It is necessary to be dependable in order to be useful in the great co-operative scheme.

Leaders in industry, replying to inquiries made by the German Committee for Technical Schools, pointed out "that it matters very little how far the pupil advances in the different subjects of instruction, but it matters a great deal whether he is thoroughly grounded in them."

A writer on education thus criticizes the out-put of our schools. He says: "From the purely mental point of view a great many young men and women come from both schools and college not only without training but with a very distinct handicap; they are without zest, initiative, mental curiosity, concentrated energy, the ability to think thru to the end of a subject. Not only are these qualities lacking in a large number of applicants for positions, but they have qualities in their place which are as troublesome as weeds in a garden to eliminate; perfunctory performance of work which is exacting and costly. They are adept in making their work look like the real thing—in putting up 'a good front'; but heaven pity you if you lay any real responsibility on them."

Such an indictment of the school system would not be seriously taken if it were not repeatedly made.

The process of thoroughly educating is not any longer in the experimental stage. It is well known. It has long been established in the reputable schools. Its simplest and most fundamental principle, perhaps the most essential one, is that standards of promotion must be maintained. This is as necessary to covering the ground rapidly as to covering it thoroughly. A definite minimum of work must be accomplished, at least so much as is necessary to understand and to do the advanced work. This is a simple and obvious principle and one we are compelled to observe in the conduct of an important business establishment by the penalty of material disasters.

Do Simple Things First.

No one should be allowed to attempt the more difficult work before he has demonstrated his ability to do the simpler things. In the artificial conditions of a school system however, it is generally easier for the time being to disregard this principle. Therefore, it is not universally or strictly maintained in the public schools.

If this were not well known, such a low valuation would not be put upon the diplomas of the schools. The diploma may truly certify to some accomplishments, or it may not. Nothing that may be inferred from it is reliable, unless one has intimate knowledge of the particular school. An employer will be more convinced by one week's experience of the pupil in his employ than by a whole sheaf of diplomas, but this week may prove expensive.

Nature is herself the most unrelenting of teachers. In industry a mistake is a mistake, for someone must bear the hardships that result from it. It will not be condoned, therefore, however carelessly it has been the habit to regard a mistake in school. The demands of industry are inexorable.

Where a lazy and incorrigible pupil knows he will be permitted to continue with his class to become an ever increasing obstacle to their progress, the interest of the majority is sacrificed without advantage to the individual for reasons of expediency. Where this malpractice becomes the rule of a school system, the teacher soon has to conduct the work, not of a class, but of an undisciplined crowd. Much fine sounding talk will then be heard about the great value of individual teaching.

This malpractice may grow from either of two causes or something of both. Either the superintendent and administrators of the school system do not know and value the advantages of orderly promotions as an incentive to the pupils to work, or the teachers are too lazy to ascertain the necessary facts upon which to determine the promotion of pupils. It is a great deal of labor to keep the necessary records and weigh the many elements of the various kinds of work duly in determining the result. Continually there is work to be examined and compared and recorded; many papers and pieces of work must be closely looked at and graded, which involves hours of tedious conscientious work on the part of the teacher.

Of course, if the teacher knows from past experience that all this is useless, that the result will be largely or wholly disregarded in deciding the promotion of pupils, or if he will himself be blamed for the failures, even the best of teachers would not make the effort to get the facts. The labor is great, and the result will be disregarded.

Opinions Out Of Date.

But teachers are fully aware of these conditions where they exist; and most teachers would be willing

these teachers by a policy of expediency.

It is the same men very often who are talking and writing about vocational education with wearisome repetition who have contributed much to the failures of the common school by dictating a policy of expediency. The hope does not seem to be well founded that they will revolutionize the educational system now to the advantage of industrial training. So continually is the cry repeated for different methods, different standards, different courses of study, different teachers, that one is apt to be hurried into the conclusion that the old educational methods were all wrong.

It may be conceded that to teach a different thing, a different method may be required. Yet it is not likely that principles established by many generations of teaching will be wholly revised now, or that they will be found inapplicable to the new subject matter. Things may be changed; but, so long as the afore mentioned cause of weakness remains untouched, the work of the vocational school, like that of many of the old common schools, will be unsound.

IN THE WORLD OF LABOR.

By Max S. Hayes.

A lawyer writes the New York Call that in the summer of 1914, when intervention in Mexico seemed imminent, he was working for a Wall Street attorney, who represented some of the largest corporations in the United States, and whose son was then studying at Harvard. One day the Wall Street attorney received a telegram from his son (a lad of 19), saying: "Wire consent; I am going to join volunteer corps at Harvard," to which the fond parent wired back: "Should this country really need your blood I would be the last to withhold my consent. But there are in New York today over 350,000 unemployed and many more throughout the United States who would be more than glad to go to the front. Why should you throw your young life away?"

Need more be said?

BRITISH miners, by a vote of 580,000 to 136,000, declared against the further extension of the conscription law. The men are also opposed to lengthening the workday from 8 to 10 hours per day, holding that the actual output would be greater, as the men would lay off, and besides it would be difficult to restore the normal eight-hour day after the war.

IT IS announced from London that Captain James R. White, formerly of the Gordon Highlanders, has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment on the charge of having attempted to incite coal miners to strike and cripple the coal supply in the north of England. White, who is a son of Field Marshal Sir George White, defender of Ladysmith, turned Socialist.

NOW Detroit is said to be following in the footsteps of Minneapolis in organizing a rifle brigade, composed entirely of union men. Probably getting ready to repel the annual invasion of "Canadian soldiers" when they start coming across the river in a month or so.

IN YUCATAN all classes of workers have organized since Carranza obtained control of that capitalist-ridden State. These unionists have adopted a manifesto denouncing intervention and appeal to organized labor of the United States to take action to prevent Big Business from forcing war upon Mexico.

It's not overproduction, but inadequate wages—so that the working people who produce the wealth are unable to purchase the goods they have produced. Wages are fixed by competition, intensified by the encroachments of machinery over hand tools.

A Brief Compilation of the Industrial Commission Report.

This compilation is in vest pocket form and contains extracts from the report of the Commission. These extracts were made by Fred Warren, the head of the Commission, and are issued by the People's College. The report of this Commission is one of the most stunning documents ever issued by the United States Government and the gist of it should be in the possession of every socialist. For the small sum of 10c this compilation can be secured, and no one should be without it. Copies may be ordered from the Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Democratic Governor Rules Like Czar Over Oklahoma

By GEORGE GILBERT HAMILTON.

(Third Article)

NOTE—Here is the third article by George Gilbert Hamilton on the growth of the Socialist movement in Oklahoma. In his next article he will deal with the elements that have made the Oklahoma movement great, and in the final article he will tell about the organization work, the methods of propaganda pursued and other interesting facts about the Oklahoma Socialist movement.

WHAT HAS been said hitherto concerning Oklahoma's dishonest registration law has been for the purpose of showing the panic into which the machine politicians have been thrown as a result of the rapid development of Socialist sentiment thruout the state and its crystallization into a thoro, efficient, revolutionary, fighting organization. This organization is composed of militant minute men who allow no opportunity to expose the crooked work of the machine to pass unimproved. Three things are necessary for efficient and effective propaganda work, agitation, education and organization, and not one of these does the Oklahoma movement neglect.

Agitation and Education. We have found that there is no better method of keeping the Socialist Party and its doings constantly before the people than to keep the opposition papers discussing us and the politicians themselves "cussing" us. This we do by continually calling attention to their crooked work, by initiating measures to nullify their schemes and to expose their political corruption. There is no better way to educate working class voters than to call attention to the class struggle as that struggle is manifested in the ordinary affairs of everyday life. The government of the State of Oklahoma, like the government of every other state and of the United States, is administered by a class in the interest of that class, and that class is not the working class. That class in Oklahoma we call the interlocked parasites.

It is composed principally of landlords, bankers, and credit corporations, backed by the politicians of the county-seat and electric light towns of the state.

Presented by the doctrinaire in abstract form and technical verbiage the doctrine of the class struggle has no meaning to the mind of the farmer. But when the doctrine is simply stated and concrete examples are right before the eyes of the worker he can not help but understand. The writer has been asked many times by comrades from the industrial states: "Is the Oklahoma movement a class conscious movement?"

The impression seems to prevail pretty generally that it is more a Populist movement than a Socialist movement, more a reform movement than a revolutionary movement, standing more for the reform of the usury and land laws than for genuine revolutionary Socialism, and that if relief could be obtained from the grasping greed of the usury taker and the land hog, the movement, not being founded on the principles of genuine scientific Socialism, would decline and finally cease to be. No greater mistake could possibly be made.

The Oklahoma movement is strictly a class conscious movement, and it is a Socialist movement, and it is a revolutionary movement, and it is a movement standing more for the reform of the usury and land laws than for genuine revolutionary Socialism, and that if relief could be obtained from the grasping greed of the usury taker and the land hog, the movement, not being founded on the principles of genuine scientific Socialism, would decline and finally cease to be. No greater mistake could possibly be made.

A Criminal Governor. The minds of the people are now being directed to the class character of the government of the State of Oklahoma and the fact that the governor of the state is using all the power of his office and actually usurping power in order to throttle the voice of the people and to prevent a full, free and fair expression of their will. To accomplish this Robert L. Williams has disregarded his solemn oath of office and has overridden both constitution and statute law.

Section 3 of Article 5 of the Constitution of Oklahoma reads in part as follows: "An election on measures referred to the people shall be held at the next election held thruout the state except when the legislature or the governor shall order a special election for the express purpose of making such reference."

The August primary will be an election held thruout the state. Ten amendments submitted by the legislature will be voted upon at that election. But the two measures proposed by the people thru the initiative—the "Fair Election Law" and the "Fair Registration Law" will not be submitted, because the governor

of recall. They proved false to the people then and they have been false since. Therefore we cannot recall this criminal governor. The supreme court has already decided that the power to mandamus does not extend to him. Thus he is made superior to constitution and statute law and can violate both with impunity, and the sovereign (?) people have no recourse, other than to take advantage of the situation to create public sentiment that will sooner or later make it impossible to have a political autocrat in Oklahoma by remedying these defects and making the people supreme.

We are now busy calling attention to this and other such high-handed outrages. The machine has been arranged before the bar of public opinion and no attorney dares to appear in this court to defend the criminal. Robert L. Williams in his desperate efforts to destroy the Socialist movement of Oklahoma has unwittingly served its interests by making sure and certain the speedy overthrow of the machine. As governor he has not done a single sensible thing. He has played the autocrat at every step and has sought to rule with an iron hand. He will retire from office at the end of his term disgraced in the eyes of all decent men and despised by all who love honesty and fair play. In the meantime, the Socialist movement of Oklahoma has been encouraged, unshaken and unafraid, marches forward to certain and complete victory, that cannot be long delayed.

Jimmy Higgins On The Job.

In seven years, from statehood (1907) to the election of 1914, the Socialist vote of Oklahoma increased from 9,000 to 53,000, or nearly 600 per cent. Inside of four years the party membership has increased from a discouraged band of 1200 to a mighty militant army of 15,000 red-blooded and revolutionary Socialists full of faith and hope and courage. The writer would not minimize in the least the splendid work of Secretary Sinclair. I have seen him working his first year in office working fifteen hours a day, seven days a week, refusing to have an assistant that money might be saved to pay the party debt. I have seen men like Nagle, the lamented Weidag, Hapel, Stoffer, Adams and others giving freely of time and means to further the movement and working and planning to build it up with never a thought of self. I have seen an army of speakers, men and women, giving themselves with a splendid devotion and at much personal sacrifice, that the cause they loved was dearer to them than life. These have all wrought well and are worthy of all honor for their work's sake.

But that which has moved me most and brought tears to my eyes a hundred times has been the love and loyalty and labor of the rank and file. To these humble toilers has come the spirit of the great cause with its promise of better things for the future than the race has ever known thru all the past. In their once hopeless lives has come the inspiration of this mighty movement and their characters have been transformed thereby. They have furnished the money to keep the wheels turning in the state office; they have paid for millions of pieces of literature and then have gone out and distributed that literature. They have arranged the meetings and have advertised them, and they have paid the speakers that the work might not suffer. They are the fellows who have carried the message of hope to their fellow workers in shop and mill, in mine and oil field, and out on to the farms. They have circulated every word and their characters have been transformed thereby. 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